

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 (**cancelled**).

19. (**currently amended**) A method of determining blood pressure, for use with an apparatus that includes: (i) a limb orientation sensing unit, (ii) a blood pressure measurement mechanism, and (iii) a timing mechanism, wherein the timing mechanism is coupled to the blood pressure measurement mechanism and the limb orientation sensing unit; the method comprising the steps of ~~The method of claim 17 further including the steps of:~~

- (a) applying the blood pressure measurement mechanism and the limb orientation sensing unit to an individual's limb to detect an orientation of the limb ;
- (b) the limb orientation sensing unit configured to sense a correct orientation and, in response thereto, delivering an electrical signal to the blood pressure measurement mechanism;
- (c) the blood pressure measurement mechanism automatically measuring blood pressure in response to the electrical signal; and,
- (d) said orientation sensing unit adopted to provide information to assist in reaching said correct orientation;

wherein the apparatus includes a display mechanism coupled to the limb orientation sensing unit, the method further comprising the step of displaying a graphical indication that guides the limb to said correct orientation; and

the limb orientation sensing unit monitoring displacement of the limb during the step of blood pressure measurement, and

displaying an error message if the limb is displaced during the step of measuring blood pressure.

Claims 20-25 (**cancelled**).

26. **(currently amended)** An apparatus including ~~The apparatus of claim 24:~~

(a) a limb orientation sensing unit;

(b) a blood pressure measurement mechanism; and

(c) a time measurement mechanism;

wherein the time measurement mechanism is coupled to the blood pressure measurement mechanism and the limb orientation sensing unit;

wherein, upon the apparatus being applied to an individual's limb and initiation of the measure sequence, the limb orientation sensing unit senses an orientation of the limb, the timing mechanism is automatically triggered and the blood pressure measurement mechanism detects blood pressure prevailing in the limb;

wherein the limb orientation sensing unit is configured to, upon sensing a correct orientation of the limb, deliver an electrical signal to the blood pressure measurement mechanism; and

a display mechanism, coupled to the limb orientation sensing unit, for displaying a graphical indication that guides the individual to place the limb in the correct orientation;

wherein the blood pressure measurement mechanism automatically measures blood pressure in response to the electrical signal; and

wherein the limb orientation sensing unit monitors displacement of the limb during the step of blood pressure measurement, and the display mechanism displays an error message if the limb is subject to error-producing displacement during a blood pressure measurement.

Claims 27-32 **(cancelled)**.

33. **(currently amended)** An apparatus including ~~The apparatus of claim 32:~~

(a) a limb orientation sensing unit;

(b) a blood pressure measurement mechanism; and

(c) a time measurement mechanism;

wherein the time measurement mechanism is coupled to the blood pressure

measurement mechanism and the limb orientation sensing unit;

wherein, upon the apparatus being applied to an individual's limb and initiation of the measure sequence, the limb orientation sensing unit senses an orientation of the limb, the timing mechanism is automatically triggered and the blood pressure measurement mechanism detects blood pressure prevailing in the limb;

wherein the limb orientation sensing unit is configured to, upon sensing a correct orientation of the limb, deliver an electrical signal to the blood pressure measurement mechanism; and

wherein the blood pressure measurement mechanism automatically measures blood pressure in response to the electrical signal;

a display mechanism, coupled to the limb orientation sensing unit, for displaying a graphical indication that guides the individual to place the limb in the correct orientation;

wherein the display mechanism provides an indication in the form of two arrows pointing in opposite directions, and one of the arrows indicates a direction by which a limb orientation correction may be performed if the limb is not in the correct orientation;

a measurement value storage device for determining validity of a blood pressure measurement taken by the blood pressure measurement mechanism, wherein the display mechanism is further equipped with an error readout display for indicating improper blood pressure measurement.

34. **(previously added)** The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the error readout of the display mechanism is activated during the blood pressure measurement.

35. **(previously amended)** The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the error readout of the display is activated after the blood pressure measurement.

36. **(currently amended)** An apparatus including ~~The apparatus of claim 23:~~

(a) a limb orientation sensing unit;

(b) a blood pressure measurement mechanism; and

(c) a time measurement mechanism;
wherein the time measurement mechanism is coupled to the blood pressure measurement mechanism and the limb orientation sensing unit;
wherein, upon the apparatus being applied to an individual's limb and initiation of the measure sequence, the limb orientation sensing unit senses an orientation of the limb, the timing mechanism is automatically triggered and the blood pressure measurement mechanism detects blood pressure prevailing in the limb;
wherein the limb orientation sensing unit is configured to, upon sensing a correct orientation of the limb, deliver an electrical signal to the blood pressure measurement mechanism; and
an error flag mechanism, wherein the display of the measured position is not continuously activated for display of orientation;
wherein the limb orientation sensing unit is continuously activated during blood pressure measurement; ~~and~~
wherein the limb orientation sensing unit is used to activate the error flag mechanism if the limb orientation sensing unit detects that the limb is not in the correct orientation at any time during blood pressure measurement; and
wherein the blood pressure measurement mechanism automatically measures blood pressure in response to the electrical signal.

Claims 37-39 (cancelled).

40. (currently amended) An apparatus including ~~The apparatus of claim 39:~~

(a) a limb orientation sensing unit;
(b) a blood pressure measurement mechanism; and
(c) a time measurement mechanism;
wherein the time measurement mechanism is coupled to the blood pressure measurement mechanism and the limb orientation sensing unit;
wherein, upon the apparatus being applied to an individual's limb and initiation of the measure sequence, the limb orientation sensing unit senses an orientation of the limb,

the timing mechanism is automatically triggered and the blood pressure measurement mechanism detects blood pressure prevailing in the limb;

wherein the limb orientation sensing unit is configured to, upon sensing a correct orientation of the limb, deliver an electrical signal to the blood pressure measurement mechanism; and

wherein the blood pressure measurement mechanism automatically measures blood pressure in response to the electrical signal;

a display mechanism, coupled to the limb orientation sensing unit, for displaying a graphical indication that guides the individual to place the limb in the correct orientation;

wherein the limb orientation sensing unit senses inclination of a user's wrist;

wherein the limb is an arm, and the correct orientation is such that the arm is substantially adjacent and proximate to the chest/upper portion of the body; and

wherein the display mechanism is arranged such that a blood pressure measurement value and/or a pulse is substantially readable only if the arm is in the correct orientation.

Claims 41 and 42 **(cancelled)**.

43. **(new)** A method of measuring blood pressure using a wrist sphygmomanometer including a body and including a cuff attached to the body and wrapped around a wrist, said body being attached to the cuff in a manner to allow the body to be located on a thumb side of an arm when the wrist sphygmomanometer is fitted on the wrist, comprising:

fitting said wrist sphygmomanometer on the wrist;

placing the wrist with said wrist sphygmomanometer fitted thereon on a subject;

and

reading a value detected by said wrist sphygmomanometer with the wrist placed on the chest.

44. **(new)** The wrist sphygmomanometer of claim 43, further comprising a positioning system which determines whether the sphygmomanometer is at an appropriate measuring level.

45. **(new)** The wrist sphygmomanometer of claim 44, wherein the positioning system indicates that the sphygmomanometer is at an appropriate measuring level by providing an acoustic signal.

46. **(new)** The wrist sphygmomanometer of claim 44, further comprising a display that includes arrows which guide a user to the appropriate measuring level.

47. **(new)** The wrist sphygmomanometer of claim 46, wherein the display indicates that the user has reached the appropriate measuring level by displaying a visual symbol.

48. **(new)** The wrist sphygmomanometer of claim 46, wherein the display indicates that the user has reached the appropriate measuring level by providing an acoustic signal.

49. **(new)** The wrist sphygmomanometer of claim 44, wherein a blood pressure measurement is automatically taken when the positioning system determines that the sphygmomanometer is at the appropriate measuring level.